

Maryland State Board of Victim Services
Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
Wednesday, October 23, 2019
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Participating Members:

Steve Kelly, Esq., Chair
Barbara Bond, Vice-Chair
Anne Bean
V. Glenn Fueston, Jr.
Jessica Dickerson for Secretary Abed
Lou Gieszl
Molly Knipe
Adam Lippe, Esq.
Joe Riley, Esq.
Alonzo Robertson, Esq.
Patricia Stevens for Secretary Green
Lisa Spicknall
Jeanne Yeager

Guests:

Stephanie Erdice, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Vince Fertetta, Secretary of State Address Confidentiality Program
Anne Hoyer, Secretary of State Address Confidentiality Program
Lisae Jordan, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Brittany Luzader, Secretary of State Address Confidentiality Program
Pamela Ortiz, Administrative Office of the Courts

Staff:

Rebecca Allyn, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Heather Amador, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention
Barbara Darley, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. Members and guests introduced themselves. Mr. Fueston presented a proclamation from Governor Hogan proclaiming October 2019 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Maryland.

II. GOCCP Updates

Ms. Schisler informed the Council that the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant program is issuing year two awards to FY2019 grantees who were in good standing. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and Children's Justice Act Committee (CJAC) grant applications have been reviewed and letters of intent or denial were sent out the end of September. The grant unit

anticipates issuing VAWA awards next week. The Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (BJAG) program and the Human Trafficking Regional Navigator Grant (RNPG) applications are currently under review.

GOCCP will be hosting a sub-recipient training on Friday November 15, 2019 which will provide an overview of compliance of grant conditions, submitting grant adjustment notices (GANs) and more. If you have any topics that you'd like GOCCP to address at this grant training, please contact Ms. Schisler. This first training will be open to victim service organizations that are current sub-recipients. Over the next two grant quarters, the GOCCP grants unit will be focusing on site visits.

Ms. Darley informed the Council that the Victim Services Unit (VSU) has submitted the restitution report to the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board for review. The VSU was legislatively tasked to review the state's current restitution practices and make recommendations. The Victim Services Unit has been working with the Maryland Hospital Association, the Maryland Department of Health, the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault and other stakeholders to develop a protocol for the HIV prophylaxis program through the Sexual Assault Reimbursement program, which is effective October 1, 2019.

The VSU is also working with the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services on the upgrade to Enhanced VINE and hope to hire a VINE Program Manager to be the face of VINE for victims and victim services. Another project the VSU is tasked with is the Sexual Assault Tracking System for sexual assault forensic exams. The VSU will be hiring several staff for this project and are currently working with the Department of Information Technology and the Office of the Attorney General to choose a system and look at compatibility with current systems.

The Maryland State's Attorneys' Association is hiring an auditor for the increased witness relocation funds provided to the Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City. Any interested candidates should contact Steve Kroll at skroll@mdsaa.org.

III. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda contained the April 2019 Board meeting minutes and the Governor's Family Violence Council updates. Ms. Yeager made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Mr. Lippe seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the consent agenda was approved.

IV. Presentation: Access to Justice Program

Ms. Ortiz provided members with an overview of the Access to Justice Program at the Administrative Office of the Courts. This program provides tools and resources for civil legal matters. Court language services, court interpreters, online self-help materials, online legal help videos, and self-help centers are available.

V. Presentation: Address Confidentiality Program

Mr. Fertetta provided members with a history of the Address Confidentiality Program through the Secretary of State's Office, eligibility requirements for the program, and how substitute addresses are provided to victims. Mr. Fertetta updated members on the Real Property Shielding

Act which applies to the program and aids victims with purchasing a home and shielding the deed.

VI. Victim Response to Mass Violence Subcommittee Update

The Subcommittee reviewed content gathered by a subcommittee of the Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Workgroup (AAIWG) around policies and practices for Family Assistance Centers and victim services during an active assailant incident. The Subcommittee provided a response with recommendations to the AAIWG to be incorporated into the overall state-wide plan.

VII. 2020 Crime Victims' Rights Week

The 2020 Maryland Crime Victims Rights' Conference will be on Monday, April 20, 2020 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Annapolis. Members discussed workshop suggestions that were provided in last year's conference survey.

Ms. Allyn discussed using an app for the conference for document sharing, personal agenda, session management, interactive maps, note taking, announcements, community board, sponsors, speaker biographies and more. Members were in support of using an app at the conference. Ms. Allyn will discuss this option further with GOCCP fiscal staff.

The Annual Memorial Services for Crime Victims will be held on Sunday, April 19, 2020. The hosts for this year's services are the State's Attorney's Offices of Baltimore City, Charles County, Dorchester County and Frederick County. Board members are invited to attend these services.

VIII. Old/New Business

Ms. Allyn informed members that she submitted a notice to be included in the Maryland Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs' Association weekly newsletter inquiring if law enforcement have a protocol in place to receive the DNA form and notify victims. Ms. Allyn received a call from the Easton Police Department and they do not have a protocol at this time but will begin to work on one. Ms. Allyn asked the department to keep her up to date on the progress. Ms. Allyn will inform the Board if any other departments contact her about the DNA form.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Robertson made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Stevens seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:02 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, January 22, 2020 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
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